

Superior and Inferior Magistrate in the Land,

For Them to Read, Weigh, and Consider in the Dread of the LORD GOD.

FRIENDS,

Having seen the late made Law against the Innocent; Well, the Will of my God be done. But I say, more Tolerable it would have been for You in the day of the Lord, which happens, if You had let poor oppressed Israel, [the too much already abused] Heretics, by his alone Almightyness, through the Word of his Right Arm, absolutely Decreed their Deliverance.

But some stop to the unparell'd, intollerable deluge of Wickedness [if ye think so] That's work for Magistrates.

But as for the Church of Christ, the Pillar and Ground of Truth, That is not a humane Law for its support or Settlement; nay, nay, It's already settled; and another Foundation cannot Man (or the Sons of Men) lay. And the very Order, Discipline and Worship thereof, and therein, together with the Everlasting Gospel, is Revealed, lived in, and upon; and Freely [without the least outward Exaction, Compulsion or Hire] Preach'd in and among all the Nations: And Blessed are they, who in the Love, have or shall have, and keep the Testimony of Jesus our Lord. But and if any be otherwise minded, the Infalible, All-powerful, Unchangeable, Everlasting, Unutterable God, will, and onely can in his Will & Time (not at all in Man's will) Reveal it in them unto them: And in God's holy Name I affirm it, it's not at all the Concern of any Mortal Man or Men, to Compell, Bind, or at all by an Outward Law Oblige, the Conscience or Person of any Man whatsoever, to this or that, or the other fallible Church, mutable, or pretended immutable infalible Church, or Worship whatsoever.

And Friends, The Act of True Conformity [Mark, of True Conformity] to, and Uniformity in, Gods own true living immutable Worship, & Infalible Church, of which Christ alone is Head [against which the Gates of Hell shall not prevail] is his, and onely his, who by his infinite Power can indeed change the heart; not the earthly Magistrate by his severity, the utmost of whose Power can but make a Conformable Hypocrite. Wherefore Friends, Let every Soul among you, which oweth any subjection at all to the Highest Power, or in the least do believe that God is, or ought to be all in all, and above all in the Conscience of every Man, forbear to touch the Lord's Anointed, and suffer not his Prophets for their pure Consciences, to be further Violated in the Land: For the God of Worm Jacob, is arisen in his Irresistible mightiness, to plead the Cause of the Innocent with all flesh in the Earth [who have no helper therein, neither Arm of Flesh to plead their Cause] yea, his Anger, the Deceit of his Terrible fierce Anger, is gone forth; and Vengeance is mine saith the Righteous God of Heaven and Earth: And I will Revenge and be Avenged to the uttermost upon the whole Seed of Evil Doers, for their Silence done to mine Innocent Seed, saith the Lord of Hosts, the God and sure helper of poor oppressed Israel.

Friends: As any of you desire to Escape the Wrath of the Lamb [from which the Carnal Sword cannot defend You] Let the Seed of God in the Nations alone; it's too ponderous for you, verily it will prove the Burdensome Stone. Yea we, who Tremble at the Word, by which all things were made, and are in Derision, by the prophane called Quakers, are Legitimately the Seed of that Eternal Rock of Ages, the Ancient of Days, the little Stone, Living, White and Precious, Cut out of the Mountain without hands, (Mark without hands) by which the first Israel was holpen (though by the Master Builders of old undervalued and set at nought, even as at this day himself and poor Seed is) before whose Emmanuel, (to wit,) God in, with, and for us, the now tremblers at his Word, I declare unto you all, in the Word of the Lord God, All Nations shall shiver and quake.

Friends, I am not in a Dream, neither am I carnally minded, nor am I crafty, or at all afraid what Man can do, to, or with my Person, (for I have none Evil in my Soul, neither malice in my heart towards any one of God's Creation) And in the Will of my God, my outward Man is simply and freely offered up to him who gave me breath; being not I say at all careful in that matter. And to mine and all Innocent Israel's Persecutors, this day I can truly say, (if it be possible) Father forgive them all: But to one of the many Thousands I can hardly say, Father, They know not what they do: So Friends, willfully hurt not your selves and ye cannot hurt us.

I know God's Israel, as well as their God, hath been, and again is to be Tempted, provoked and tryed to the full, notwithstanding we have been men of Sorrows, and already deeply acquainted with affliction; and ever since we were a People, even killed all the day long, for our living Testimony of the Lord Jesus; So it is not a new thing, that is, or possibly can happen unto us, for the further tryal of our pure Patience, and Faith in him, that is Almighty; who in six Troubles hath been with us, and out of this the seventh Trouble, he also

will assuredly Deliver us: But happy, happy, yea, thrice happy is the man who hath no hand against the Innocent, whose blood roares aloud in the Ears of our tender hearted Father, The Almighty God of Heaven and of Earth, who Delivered our Predecessors the Israelites of old; whose Arms not at all [in this his Day] shorted, neither hath his right hand forgot its wonted cunning, that he cannot in the twinkling of an Eye, with the flaming breath of his most terrible Nostrils, blow upon, and utterly confound the most subtle in the Imaginations of their own hearts, and in a very moment consume and bring to nought the Counsels of the most prudent in the Earth: whom I again affirm (in the dread of the Lord God) to you all, hath also Decreed our Deliverance: And the Cup of Trembling, yea, the unmixed Cup of the furious Indignation of the long provoked God of Mercy, shall be fixed in the implacable hearts of them who bave Reproof, and abhor in this their day of tender Visitation, to be stopt in the Course of their own Ways.

Friends, Your Whips, your Stocks, your Bridewells, your Goals and Dungeons, with all your other Ways, Places of Confinement and Restraint, (in, and under which, near Thirty of the harmless precious Servants of the Lord God, called Quakers, through severe and inhumane Usage, within these few Months, have been Martyred*) are fitter for prophane Bear-wards, Obscen & Blasphemous Stage-players, Interluders, and Ballad-singers, Minstrels of many accursed sorts, and cheating Mountebanks; all which swarm like Caterpillars in the Land, and are even a stink like

the mouth of Hell in a Christian Nation: And yet all these Seed of Evil-doers, and Infernal Seducers, can meet without Controul, in unlimited Thousands, to Belch forth their horrid Blasphemies, Cheat the People, Terrifie and Destroy God's Creatures: But God's own innocent simple Seed, who meet in his pure Fear, [only] to Wait upon Him in his unlimited, uncircumscribable Spirit, according to the Command of Christ Jesus, and Example of the true and most antient Christians, for the building up, and edifying each other in the Lord; are by a Law restricted within the Number five, under the Penalty of a fine, Bridewel, or Banishment. Oh! England, England, is there any Man within thy utmost Confines, so foolishly hardy, to think in his heart, that the Lord will not severely Visit for these things? I say, if any such there be, they may as well declare with their Tongues positively, That there is no God.

Friends, These, these prophane Meetings, are fit to be broken up and forbidden by a Law [not the oppressed Christians] (Mark) these things [not the men] ought to be Banish'd forth of the Land, that's the way to preserve Peace; I say your hoysonne Yauls, and dismal Goals, are fitter for the above named, together with the Riotous, Surfeising Drunkards, Lewd and Bitchous Women, Setters up, and Frequenters of Day-poles, Day Games, Whistun-Ales, Wakes, Revelings, Ridiculous Poprice-dancers, Dice and Card Players, &c.

Then for an innocent sober People, who are truly serviceable in the Common-weal, & who Meet together for no other End than to worship the Living God in Spirit and in Truth; And who also stand in God's Fear as Living Witnesses for the Lord against all these things, with whatsoever is produced from, interwoven with, or pertains to the precise Witchcrafts; to wit horrid Cursing, most Bloody Damning, Swearing and Lying, hardness of heart, inhumanity, fulness of Bread, Luxury, Persecution, Covetousness, Superstition, Idolatry, Murder, (and what not which God hates) in, from, and upon which five last mentioned, is rooted and springeth up, is harboured and fixed, the whole Evils Predominant in and among mankind.

And Friends, the Abominable Stench of these Things, and Practises, together with the Great, yea, the very Great Abuse of God's oppressed innocent Seed in the Land, makes your Metropolis like Sodome, and your inferior Cities, Towns and Villages, like, or rather worse than were the Streets of Gomorrah: At which the Lord God of Heaven and Earth is very Angry. And I have seen, yea in God's Eternal Spirit, I have and do see his Fury, his dreadful Fury, yea the Intollerable Trials of his exceeding hot Displeasure (for these intollerable Wickednesses) ready to be poured forth.

And this is my true Testimony from
Israel's God to Englands People.

The 7th. of the 3d. Month
Heatbenishly called May.

EDWARD BYLLNGE.